

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 of the present application are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Deskey et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,369,331 ("Deskey"). Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deskey.

The claims have been amended to distinguish over Deskey. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the cylindrical protective casing of the spot footing of the invention consists of a top plate (2), a side wall part (4, 6) having an opening (5) extending from the top plate to the base plate, and two or more anchor bars (1) secured to the top plate (2) and extending above the top plate, the anchor bars being arranged close to the center of the top plate. These elements of the spot footing of the present invention are supported throughout the specification and drawings. The elements adapt the spot footing for use as a load transmitting structure for securing a precast concrete or timber column to a foundation and/or for extending such a column, the loads being transmitted via the two or more anchor bars (1), the thicker force-transmitting part top plate part (2), the wall part (4, 6) and the base plate (3), and are neither disclosed nor suggested by Deskey. The utility standard of Deskey has an entirely different function and structure from the spot footing of

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/506,566
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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the present invention and no motive exists in the prior art to modify the standard of Deskey so as to be useful as a spot footing.

Removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections are in order and are respectfully solicited.

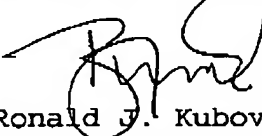
The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2008.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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